

SILVERWINGS





"Back to the basics"

Vol. 32, Issue 36

Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.

September 5, 2008

Weather

	Today High: 87, Low: 68 30% Thunderstorms		Saturday High: 82, Low: 65 Partly Cloudy
	Sunday High: 88, Low: 65 Sunny		Monday High: 89, Low: 66 Partly Cloudy

News Briefs

OSC Social

The next Officer Spouses' Club social will be held Sept. 9 at 6 p.m. at the Columbus Club. All are encouraged to attend.

08-15 Assignment Night

The Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training class 08-15 will have an assignment night Sept. 12 at 5 p.m. at the Columbus Club.

Arnold Air Society Golf Tournament

The Arnold Air Society Golf Tournament is scheduled to be held Sept. 12 at 9 a.m. at Whispering Pines.

Inside



Feature 10

SUPT class 08-14 graduates today at 10 a.m. at the Kaye Auditorium.



U.S. Air Force photo

BLAZE Members and families dine at the 2007 Air Force Ball at the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus. This year's Air Force ball will also be held at the Trotter Convention Center with a live band for entertainment.

Celebrating the Air Force's 61st birthday

Capt. Kristen Westby
37th Flying Training Squadron

The 2008 Air Force Ball is quickly approaching! In less than two weeks, the Air Force will celebrate its 61st birthday Sept. 18 and Columbus AFB will commemorate the event at the Trotter Convention Center in downtown Columbus.

This year's theme is 'Honoring our Past, Forging our Future'.

Major Gen. Mike Gould will be joining us from Scott AFB, Ill. General Gould is currently the Director of Operations and Plans at USTRANSCOM, but he spent his early years as a T-38 FAIP at Williams AFB, Ariz.

For dinner, there will be a choice of Cajun chicken breast, sautéed catfish with a lemon cream sauce or vegetarian spinach-mushroom lasagna.

The Catdaddies, featuring the 14th Civil Engineering Squadron's very own Bobby Shannon, will be performing at the ball. The Catdaddies were featured at this year's Fireworks on the Water and will be on hand to provide a little something for everyone.

For our guests over 21, we will be providing a complimentary demi-bottle of Cabernet/Franc with a customized Columbus AFB Ball label.

See **AF BALL**, Page 3

COLUMBUS AFB TRAINING TIMELINE

PHASE II

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Track Select
37th (09-08)	7.00 day	2.70 days	Sept. 25
41st (09-09)	0.04 days	-1.29 days	Oct. 21

PHASE III

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
48th (08-14)	1.00 days	-0.10 days	Sept. 5
50th (08-14)	-2.29 days	-0.68 days	Sept. 5

IFF

Squadron	Senior Class	Squadron Overall	Graduation
49th (08-KB)	-0.51 days	0.14 days	Sept. 12

WING SORTIE BOARD

Aircraft	Required	Flown	Annual
T-6	368	241	26,753
T-1	156	101	11,055
T-38	92	80	11,930
IFF	29	25	2,837

Graduation speaker: The graduation speaker is retired Lt. Gen. Gary Trexler, former Deputy Commander, United Nations Command

Track Select

1st Lt. Eliza McGhee	T-1
2nd Lt. Matthew Aiken	T-1
2nd Lt. Guennadi Antonov	T-1
2nd Lt. Brian Bennett	T-1
2nd Lt. Amy Bower	T-1
2nd Lt. Justin Cadwell	T-1
2nd Lt. Philip Glorioso	T-1
2nd Lt. Dustin Hardwick	T-38
2nd Lt. Matthew Huber	T-44
2nd Lt. Joshua Hunt	T-44
2nd Lt. James LeBeau	T-38
2nd Lt. Christopher Lien	T-1
2nd Lt. William Meister	UH-1
2nd Lt. Timothy Ober	T-1
2nd Lt. David Odonnell	T-1
2nd Lt. Nathan Preston	T-1
2nd Lt. Joseph Raffa	T-1
2nd Lt. Christopher Ross	T-38
2nd Lt. Russel Smyth	T-44
2nd Lt. Edward Sutton	T-1
2nd Lt. Daiki Tanaka	T-38
2nd Lt. Matthew Walton	T-1
2nd Lt. Shane Williams	T-1



Top Guns

Contact: 2nd Lt. Dustin Hardwick
Instrument: 2nd Lt. Dustin Hardwick
Formation: 2nd Lt. Amy Bower

Dubisher Award

2nd Lt. Dustin Hardwick

09-07

Dorm dinner



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Cliff Somers

Airman 1st Class Ruby Barrera, 50th Flying Training Squadron, Staff Sgt. Anedra Davis, 14th Communications Squadron, Airman 1st Class Persian Jones, Operational Support Squadron, Airman 1st Class Brianna Bergstrand, 14th CS, Airman Josh Harbin, 14th Flying Training Wing, and Staff Sgt. Jamie Somers, 14th Force Support Squadron, celebrate Airman Jones' win of a Nintendo Wii at the Dorm Dinner held at the Base Pool Aug. 28. BLAZE 56 sponsored the event. The next Dorm Dinner is scheduled for Oct. 16.

**Park it before
you pour!**

14TH FLYING TRAINING WING DEPLOYED

As of press time, 36 **BLAZE TEAM** members are deployed worldwide. Remember to support the Airmen and their families while they are away.



SILVER WINGS

How to reach us

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs
555 Seventh St. Suite 203
Columbus AFB, MS 39710
Commercial: (662) 434-7068
DSN: 742-7068
Fax: (662) 434-7009
E-mail: silverwings@columbus.af.mil

Editorial Staff

Col. Roger Watkins
14th Flying Training Wing
Wing Commander

Mr. Rick Johnson
Public Affairs Chief

2nd Lt. George Fowler
Chief of Internal Information

Airman Josh Harbin
Editor

Mrs. Michelle Lee
Layout Designer

Submission Deadline

The deadline for submitting copy for next week's SILVER WINGS is noon Monday. Articles may be dropped off at the public affairs office or e-mailed.

Published by the Commercial Dispatch Publishing Company, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 14th Flying Training Wing.

This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the SILVER WINGS are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The appearance of advertising in this publication does not constitute endorsement by the DOD, the Department of the Air Force or Service Publications, Inc., of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office of Columbus AFB, Miss.

The SILVER WINGS staff reserves the right to edit or rewrite all copy submitted when necessary. All photos are U.S. Air Force photos unless otherwise stated.

Submit all advertising to the Columbus, Miss., Commercial Dispatch advertising department one week prior to desired publication date. The advertising department can be reached at (662) 328-2427.

HQ AETC ESOHCAMP team arrives Monday

14th Civil Engineer Environmental Flight

The Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Compliance Assessment Management Program audit begins Monday. Colonel John Costa, 42nd Mission Support Group commander, will lead the HQ AETC team comprised of 20 Air Force active duty/reserve members, civilians and contractors. ESOHCAMP members are highly trained and bring a different area of expertise to the assessment.

Similar to the Operational Readiness Inspection, assessors will check for compliance with federal, state, local and Air Force requirements. The team will review records, inspection logs, training certificates, plans, etc. Unlike an ORI, the ESOHCAMP team will also evaluate conformance with our own policies and programs. Compliance and conformance will be verified through visual shop inspections and interviews. All shop visits and interviews will be coordinated with your unit during normal duty hours Monday through Thursday. There won't be any "sur-

prise" or evening inspections, but keep in mind the length of the assessment is just one week.

Once the team determines we are in compliance, they will look for areas where we go above and beyond. So polish up your unit ESOH programs and don't be afraid to show your success! The team will recognize "positive performers" during the out-brief with the wing commander Friday.

Keep in mind, a finding or deficiency isn't necessarily "bad." Findings related to inadequate infrastructure and/or equipment can receive a higher priority when requesting funding.

Here are some ESOHCAMP do's and don'ts:
DO make sure the assessor is talking to the right person. Everyone should have a general awareness of how their work impacts the environment but there's only one or two people in your organization trained to handle your hazardous materials/waste, provide personal protective equipment, or conduct lockout/tagout procedures.

DO have all your ESOH documents, plans and records

handy. If you're asked to provide a document or record that you can't find—just get the assessor's name and number and ask if you can contact them when you locate the document. If you haven't provided the document by Thursday, you'll probably have a finding!

DON'T be afraid to ask your assessor for their professional opinion or guidance while their in your shop. They are highly trained and knowledgeable in their respective ESOH areas. Consider this a staff assistance visit.

DON'T debate a finding with an assessor. If you think the assessor has an invalid finding, contact us—we'll do the haggling!

DO call your BLAZE ESOH team if you have any questions or need assistance during the week:

Environmental: 434-7974

Safety: 434-2519

Bioenvironmental: 434-2284

Good luck BLAZE team!

Have you registered to vote yet?



U.S. Air Force photo by 2nd Lt. George Fowler

Chief Master Sgt. Richard Brackett, 14th Flying Training Wing Command Chief Master Sergeant, registers to vote in his state of legal residence at the voting table located in the Base Exchange main lobby. The voting information booth is part of Armed Forces Voters Week which is the Department of Defense full court press to get uniformed service members registered to vote. The booth will be manned at the BX during exchange hours until closing on Sept. 7. This booth helps military members get voting information for their legal residence states. If you are not able to catch the booth at the BX, contact your unit's voting representative or call the Columbus AFB switchboard and they will connect you.

Group Voter Representatives

Wing Staff Agencies: Maj. JayCee Stennis x2496

Medical Group: 1st Lt. William Sherman x2380

Mission Support Group: 2nd Lt. Steven Lewis x2692

Operations Group: Maj. Ervin Powers x7522

AF BALL

(Continued from Page 1)

An added bonus for the evening will be the unveiling of the book, "A History of Columbus Air Force Base." Connie Lisowski, 14th Flying Training Wing historian, has put countless hours into recording and preserving the experiences and events which have shaped our base. She will be attending the event to answer questions and provide insight about her new book.

For those of you with children, the Child Development Center has moved their "Parent's Night Out" to Sept. 18 to accommodate the event. Please contact them directly for more information at 434-2479.

Admission for this occasion requires mess dress/semi-formal attire and a ticket price of \$30. Festivities will begin with a social hour at 6 p.m. and dinner will be at 7 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now, but they are limited and going fast. Please contact your unit representative to purchase one. The unit representatives are as follows: 2nd Lt. Adam Rudd, 14th Wing Staff Agency; Capt. Richard McElhaney, 14th Operations Group; 1st Lt. Steve Payne, 14th Mission Support Group; and Airman 1st Class Jennifer Callahan, 14th Medical Group.

INVENTORY

*Tweet &
Texan*

0



92



New GTC from Citi arriving soon

Major changes are coming to the Department of Defense's government travel charge card used by Airmen while traveling on official business.

First, the DoD contract with Bank of America will end soon.

This means all GTC cardholders will receive new cards from Citi Bank. According to 2nd Lt. Janelle West, GTC Wing Agency Program Coordinator, Citi began distributing the new cards Aug. 1 and will continue to send out cards until Sept. 30.

If a travel card is not received by then, it may be because an outdated address is on file. Anyone who thinks their address may be outdated should notify their unit's APC immediately.

The new GTC will be ready for use Nov. 30, the lieutenant said. The current Bank of America travel cards will expire at 11:59pm EST on Nov. 29.

Lieutenant West added, it is important for Airmen to verify receipt of the new travel card to ensure it can be used on Nov. 30. Verification may be done by phone or online anytime after Aug. 15. Activation information can be found on the card.

As part of the receipt verification process, and to use the new card, Airmen must accept the cardholder agreement terms and conditions.

Also, those traveling during the changeover of cards from Nov. 29-30 should charge all official travel expenses up to and including Nov. 29 on the Bank of America-issued GTC. Travel expenses incurred beginning 12 a.m. Eastern Time on Nov. 30 should be charged to the new Citi GTC.

"If an Airman is in the middle of a trip, he simply makes the switch of the cards at midnight," Lieutenant West said.

Bank of America cardholders will need to pay all outstanding, undisputed charges to their cards before Nov. 29. No credit balances can remain after that date and if the Bank of America card has one, people should call the phone number on the back of the card and ask that the balance be sent to them.

People traveling on TDY during the card changeover can file a travel voucher in the traditional manner. They will split disburse to their new Citi card and then pay the Bank of America GTC balance by going to myeasypayment.com. It is also important to ensure your new card info was successfully uploaded into DTS.

After the changeover, Bank of America will continually accept payments for charges previously made on its cards. Charge limits and charging privileges on the new Citi GTC will remain the same and APCs will have the authority to raise limits to meet mission requirements.

Sew it on



U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens

The 14th Flying Training Wing congratulates the August enlisted promotees. The promotions are as follows: to Airman: Nathan Boston, 14th Security Forces Squadron; to Senior Airman: Kyle Gould, 37th Flying Training Squadron; James Nelson, 14th Operational Support Squadron; to Staff Sgt: John Hearn, 14th Medical Support Squadron; William Dell, 14th OSS; to Tech. Sgt.: Jason Stegmeier, 14th MDSS. Not pictured: to Tech Sgt.: Jason Behrens, 14th OSS.

Penny Wars



U.S. Air Force photo by Elizabeth Owens

Colonel Mark Brown, 14th Mission Support Group commander, serves Airman 1st Class Brianna Bergstrand, 14th Communications Squadron, pizza at the Penny Wars luncheon at Freedom Park Aug. 29. The 14th CS won the Penny Wars challenge with 6,200 points and the 14th MSG Command Section lost with -7,711 points. The Air Force Ball Committee raised over \$1,600 with the Penny Wars challenge.

Have financial peace at last

2nd Lt. George Fowler

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

The Financial Peace University class will be held at the Columbus AFB Chapel beginning Sept. 9 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The class will be taught by Chaplain William Logan and it will last for 13 weeks.

According to Chaplain Logan, the Financial Peace University class was developed by Dave Ramsey, a well-known financial advisor. Ramsey has lived the principles that he teaches. As a young man he was very successful until he got into too much debt. He ended up losing everything and decided he must get out of debt to survive. He developed several principles which he has conveyed in two books which were best-sellers.

The first hour of each class is spent watching a DVD of Dave Ramsey teaching financial principles followed by an hour of discussion between the attendees of the class. Chaplain Logan believes the discussion portion of the class is very helpful.

"Most of what adults learn is from each other," observes Logan.

The beginning lessons of the class are focused on revealing the truths about debt. Chaplain Logan thinks many individuals assume debt is a way of life. Dave Ramsey champions the idea that it is possible to live a life without debt. The class goes on to explain how and where to invest money in a smart manner as well as how to reduce current debt.

"Over the course of the 13 weeks, the average person reduces their debt by \$2,500," Logan said. "That's a tangible thing to take away from it."

There are other benefits as well. A student in this class will develop the power over their finances and a hope they can be free from debt, believes Chaplain Logan.

Chaplain Logan highly encourages this class for young couples because financial stress is a major factor in marriage problems. Supervisors and commanders will learn things which will help them better be able to assist their Airmen who are struggling with money issues. After this class, young singles will know how credit cards work and will feel much more confident with their finances. Older, married couples will learn how to get rid of their current debt and where they should invest their money.

The class is open to anyone associated with the base. The class is free to attend but seating is limited. Contact Chaplain



Logan at the base chapel to register at 434-2500 or 434-2943.

Throughout the 13 week program, Chaplain Logan believes people will gain wisdom over their finances and gain power over their finances. Instead of being controlled by money and debt, this class shows how to have power over these things.

"I have personally seen 100 percent of the students reach success through this program," noted Logan. "The first step is to call us and sign up for the class."

14th MDG announces direct access to Physical Therapy

In an effort to improve access to care for its beneficiaries, the 14th Medical Group will begin allowing patients with musculoskeletal problems to book appointments directly with Physical Therapy. The physical therapist is an integral part of the medical team and is qualified and trained to evaluate musculoskeletal conditions, order appropriate tests, and refer to specialists as required. This process is part of a continuous commitment by the 14th MDG to streamline overall performance and provide the best care for its patients.

Captain William Clarkson is the Chief of Physical Therapy for the 14th MDG. He received his Master's degree in Physical Therapy from the University of Texas Health Science Center, San Antonio, in 2001 and has

specialized in orthopedics since that time. In addition to a vast knowledge of various musculoskeletal conditions, he has extensive experience in spinal disorders. Captain Clarkson uses an array of tools such as therapeutic exercise, joint mobilizations and manipulations, neuro-muscular re-education, and modalities (hot/cold packs, electrical stimulation, etc.) in his practice. Furthermore, he is capable of evaluating and managing patients with musculoskeletal complaints without a referral from a physician.

Patients seeking evaluation and treatment of musculoskeletal injuries are encouraged to call the appointment line at 434-CARE to see if they meet the criteria for evaluation by the physical therapist.



DID YOU KNOW....?
T-38's are also used by NASA astronauts.



Standard of excellence



U.S. Air Force photo by Duncan Wood

Air Force Space Command Commander Gen. C. Robert Kehler (left) and AFSPC Command Chief Todd Small (right) say farewell to Gen. Norton A. Schwartz, Air Force Chief of Staff, after he addressed Airmen at Peterson AFB, Colo., Sept. 2.



**For people ages 18 to 34
motor vehicle crashes are
the leading cause of death.**

Don't become a statistic.

AFPC commander discusses support for deployed Airmen

Staff Sgt. Don Branum

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — The commander of the Air Force Personnel Center discussed how her agency continues to improve its support of deployed Airmen during a visit here Aug. 27.

AFPC is streamlining how it tracks deployments and re-examining how it balances deployments with assignments and training, said Major Gen. K. C. McClain, who toured Camp Bucca, Iraq, and two other locations in Southwest Asia prior to arriving at Joint Base Balad.

A major step in this evolution came through moving the Air and Space Expeditionary Force Center, formerly at Langley Air Force Base, Va., to AFPC, which is headquartered at Randolph AFB, Texas.

"We're just finishing the merger of the AEF Center with AFPC, and I think that's going to pay dividends for all of our deployed Airmen," she said. "What we had before the merger was two different organizations taking actions in stovepipes. The AEF Center may have been working a deployment, and AFPC may have been working an assignment, and the individual got hit with both of them. Now, by having the two together, we can incorporate the AEF cycle into day-to-day personnel actions."

Under the merger, the AEF Center became the Directorate of AEF Operations. The merger allows for better visibility on Airmen availability by synchronizing deployment cycles with permanent change of station moves and training requirements, General McClain said.

"For instance, the NCO Retraining Program release will be vetted through the AEF cycle in the future to ensure Airmen aren't in retraining during their assigned AEF rotation," she said.

AFPC will also begin tracking deployments by first movement rather than required delivery dates.

"We had an individual who, because of a series of reclama actions, received one week's notice to go to three months of training before a deployment," General McClain said. "Our old metrics showed 90 days' notice because he didn't have to be in the (U.S. Central Command area of responsibility) until 90 days later ... when, in fact, he had one week's notice to get to training."

Tracking deployments by first movement will create a more accurate picture of how much notice a person receives

before he deploys, allowing AFPC to notify Airmen and their families sooner, said Chief Master Sgt. Andy Kaiser, AFPC's command chief.

"We have a relentless pursuit of perfection," Chief Kaiser said. "If we have one short-notice tasking ... that's one too many. We're passionate about meeting our goal of reducing short-notice taskings to zero."

Airmen will still receive short-notice taskings when someone who is matched against a tasking injures himself and can no longer deploy, General McClain said, "but we want to make sure our processes in working these taskings isn't responsible for the delay in notification."

AFPC has also empowered Airmen to manage their own personnel data through services like the virtual MPF and the Air Force Contact Center.

"Anytime that you put something on the Web, it obviously helps deployed Airmen, because they can then get access to their records at any time," the general said. "We're trying to give individuals control of their personnel business, just like many banking companies are giving us control over our finances. You can go online and check out your bank account ... you can access it any day and at any hour of the day. That's what we're doing with the personnel services. One of our goals is to give Airmen more control of their personnel actions."

The AFCC can walk Airmen through Web-based applications as well as answer many of their personnel-related questions.

"The AFCC is open 24/7, so you can call and ask questions," General McClain said. "If they can't answer it, they will get you to the subject matter experts who can."

The Web-based promotion release system has also proven useful to deployed warfighters, Chief Kaiser said.

"With the Web-based system, Airmen don't have to wonder if the commander will come around," he said. "Everyone knows at the same time whether they've been selected for promotion, and commanders still congratulate their people." The 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing recognized its staff sergeant selectees during a ceremony at Town Hall here Aug. 21, the day after the staff sergeant results were released.

General McClain said she seeks feedback on the Web-based systems and any other ideas from Airmen that can improve personnel processes.

"You put the programs out there, and you think you've got them worked and



U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Richard Lisum

Major Gen. K. C. McClain (left) speaks with Lt. Gen. Gary North (right) and Col. John Dolan about their tour of the 332nd Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron's Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants Management Flight at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, Aug. 27. General McClain accompanied General North on a tour of the U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility. This is General McClain's first visit to the Middle East since assuming command of the Air Force Personnel Center in January. General North is the commander of U.S. Air Forces Central and the Combined Forces Air Component commander. Colonel Dolan is the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing vice commander.

that they make sense ... and then your customers start using them and say that it doesn't work, or it doesn't make sense," she said. "So we're always soliciting feedback, and that's one of the reasons I'm on this trip."

Airmen who spoke with General McClain during her visits here and to other bases in the AOR have given her points that she intends to address when she returns to AFPC, she said. One issue she will examine is special experience identifiers, or SEIs, which the Air Force uses to identify people with critical skill sets within certain career fields. Another is short tour credit, which Airmen currently receive for serving 181 consecutive days or more in locations identified as hostile fire or imminent danger pay areas.

A third issue involves receiving personnel information from home station that PERSCO offices need in the AOR. AFPC is working with U.S. Air Forces Central's Directorate of Manpower and Personnel to create a solution, General McClain said.

"We've got a great A1 staff (in the AOR) led by Lt. Col. Paul Valenzuela, and a great AFCENT/A1 staff (at Shaw AFB, S.C.) led by Col. Ron Barnes," she said. "We are all joined together as a team to

work the issues. Our goal is always to let the home team work it, and if they can't, they know to push it up to AFPC. We're all committed to making all personnel processes better.

"It's been a very productive trip," she added. "A lot of people are saying complimentary things, so now, let's move it to the next level. No one out there is saying that the system's egregiously broken -- I think there are some out there who feel it can be better, but I think on the whole, our customers are saying, 'It's working; now let's make some refinements.' I've been pleased about that, and I'm learning about opportunities to refine how we get the right people in the right place with the right skills at the right time."

The general thanked her home-station unit deployment managers, Senior Master Sgt. Timothy Melville and Tech. Sgt. Shauna Walker, for setting up her first trip to the AOR since she became AFPC commander in January.

"We deploy a lot of the individual augmentation taskings out of AFPC, and Sergeant Melville and Sergeant Walker hand walk people through the process," she said. "Good UDMs are worth their weight in gold."

CSAF defers heritage coat decision, focuses on current uniform issues

Master Sgt. Russell P. Petcoff

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

WASHINGTON — Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton A. Schwartz decided on Aug. 28 to defer a decision on the Air Force heritage coat until the summer of 2009 to address current uniform issues, according to a senior Air Force official.

"We are going to fix, improve and upgrade uniforms in our current inventory," said Lt. Gen. Richard Y. Newton III, Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services.

The goal is to provide the best uniform and equipment to Airmen in order to allow them to best carry out their mission, he said.

The decision came as part of the senior leader strategic summit at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C., Aug. 27.

The service's top enlisted Airman applauded the decision.

"Our Airmen spend their hard-earned money on these uniforms, and we owe it to them to do the research, development and quality assurance necessary to guarantee every uniform item put on the shelf is right the first time," said Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Rodney J. McKinley.

"We don't want to have to come back and fix something we've already fielded. I'm confident our efforts to improve physical training uniforms, the Airman Battle Uniform and ABU boots will yield satisfactory results," he said.

General Newton said making changes will take time.

"We continue to strive to provide our Airmen uniforms that are functional and practical all the while exuding the sense of pride that our Airmen have serving this great nation and our Air Force," General Newton said.

A few of the uniform concerns the service will look at are a lighter-weight ABU for hot-weather climates, better-fitting

PT clothing and a quieter material for the warm-up jacket and pants, General Newton said.

ABU boots are another uniform item the Air Force wants to get right. General Newton said the quality of boots is important to today's expeditionary Air Force and for the future.

Airmen are being tasked to do jobs that are different than previous missions required in years gone by, General Newton said.

The Air Force recently certified another manufacturer for ABU boots, said Ruth Ewalt, chief of Air Force Uniform Programs and Policy. Before certifying the company, Air Force officials considered the company's more than 40-year history of manufacturing boots, and that it had produced several types of boots for the Army and Navy.

"Our acceptance of their product was also a result of positive feedback collected after extended wear by male and female cadets at the Air Force Academy," Ms. Ewalt said.

Issues considered by Air Force officials included blistering, contusions, sprains, swelling and general pain that may have been associated with the boots, she said.

"The boots are manufactured in sizes for both genders and will be issued to new basic trainees beginning no later than Oct. 1," Ms. Ewalt said.

"As a result of feedback from individuals in industrial environments — such as our aircraft maintainers and fuels experts — new stain-resistant materials are being tested for our boots," Ms. Ewalt said. "Once a new material is selected, boots made with that new material will not be available for approximately two years."

General Newton said the Air Force has listened to the uniform concerns of its Airmen. It recently conducted the first-ever virtual uniform board.

The board considered 109 initiatives out of more than 900 received, many of which were duplications or already in the process of being resolved, Ms. Ewalt said. Others did not meet the criteria because no substantive solutions were provided.

The intent of the virtual uniform board is for Airmen to identify a problem and suggest an improvement, Ms. Ewalt said.

"Unlike an open forum board, it's an avenue to voice an input and recommend a solution to resolve the issue," Ms. Ewalt said. "It is an opportunity for everyone wearing the uniform to bring well thought out and substantive issues — along with solid recommendations to resolve those issues — to the attention of Air Force senior leadership."

No one knows better than Airmen serving today what uniform changes are needed, General Newton said.

"We heard the feedback from the field and will continue to do so," General Newton said.

Airmen can provide uniform recommendations by going to the Air Force IDEA Program Web site at https://ipds.csd.disa.mil/IPDS/landing_page, Ms. Ewalt said. Airmen can access uniform information at the Air Force Portal, www.my.af.mil and typing in "uniform" in the search box in the page's upper right-hand corner.

The heritage coat wear test will continue until its scheduled Oct. 31 completion date. Air Force experts will then analyze wear test results and provide General Schwartz a comprehensive package on which to base his decision next year. There are 240 Airmen currently participating in wear tests at Maxwell AFB, Ala.; San Antonio; the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.; and the Pentagon, Ms. Ewalt said.

Out of harm's way



Hurricane Gustav evacuees from New Orleans step off a C-17 Globemaster III from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., Aug. 31 after being transported out of harm's way. To date, Air Mobility Command units have transported more than 6,500 Gustav evacuees to safety. The evacuees were sent to various locations throughout the United States, where relief teams were waiting with food, water and shelter.

U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Jennifer Romig

Hurricane hunters



U.S. Air Force Maj. J.D. Haig (left) and Lt. Col. Troy Anderson, 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron Hurricane Hunters from Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., patrol what was then still Tropical Storm Gustav Aug. 27. The Hurricane Hunters are the only operational unit in the world flying weather reconnaissance on a routine basis. They provide surveillance of tropical storms and hurricanes in the Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico and Central Pacific for the National Hurricane Center.

U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Erik Hofmeyer

Welcome to the U.K.

Capt. Tony Wickman
USAFE Public Affairs

ACROSS

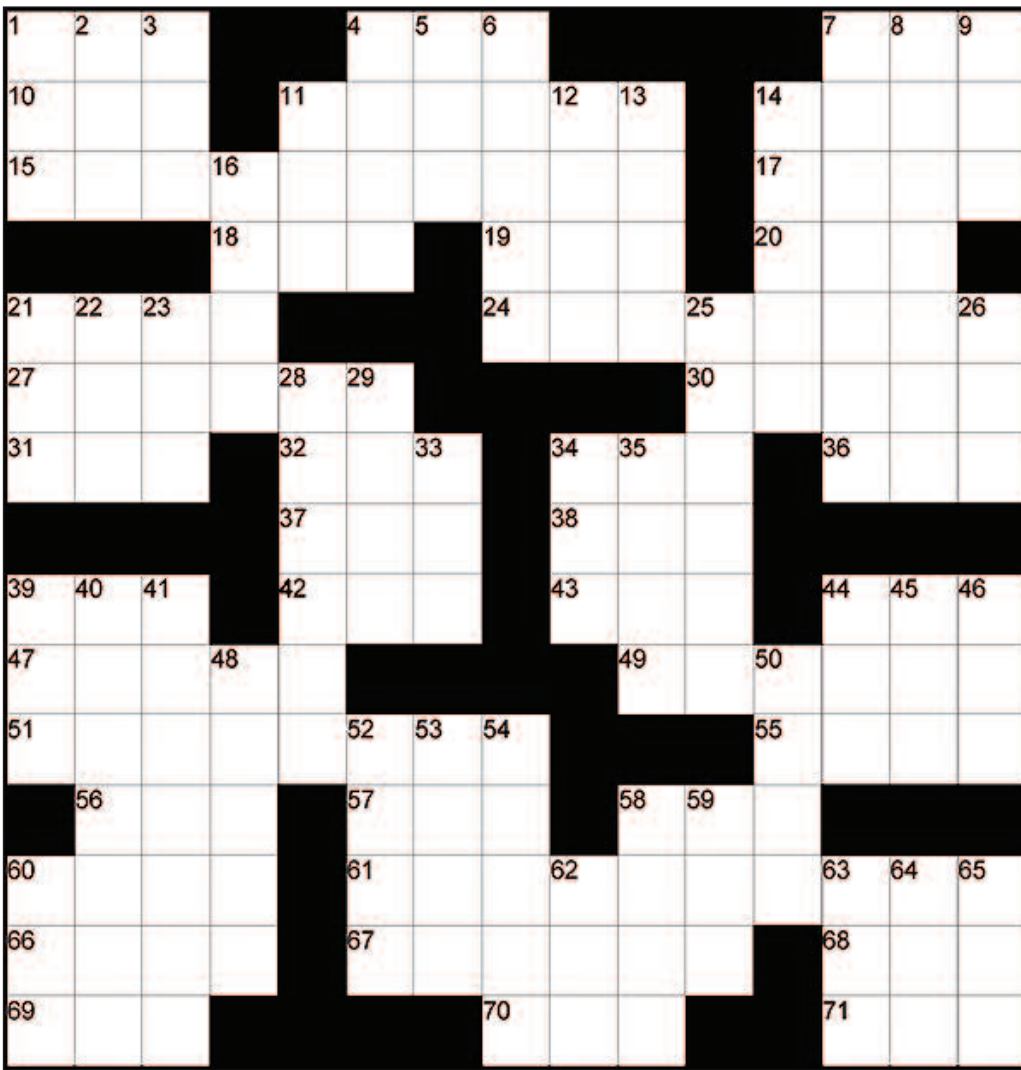
- 1. Pork product
- 4. Possess
- 7. Mil. recreation program
- 10. NY Giant Manning
- 11. Takes a bite
- 14. Kill time
- 15. RAF base in the U.K.
- 17. In the matter or case of, in legal speak
- 18. Rudolph's nose
- 19. Mekong denizen
- 20. Fib
- 21. Region
- 24. Appeals
- 27. English icon
- 30. Movie award
- 31. Baby talk
- 32. Neither's literary partner
- 34. Actor Cruise
- 36. Health resort
- 37. Oklahoma town
- 38. Actress Mendes
- 39. ___ de deux; ballet step
- 42. NY player
- 43. Writer Amy of The Joy Luck Club
- 44. Japanese sash
- 47. Near
- 49. Capital of England
- 51. Part of the U.K.










- 55. Aesir ruler and god of war, poetry, knowledge, and wisdom
- 56. Yoko
- 57. Open meadow
- 58. Mil. ID
- 60. Hence
- 61. RAF base located in the UK
- 66. Ache
- 67. Sculpture
- 68. Observe
- 69. USAFE PME for 26

DOWN

- 70. Worthless piece of cloth
 - 71. Greek god of forests, pastures, flocks, and shepherds
- DOWN
- 1. Skirt line
 - 2. The Greatest
 - 3. End of Air Force Link Web site
 - 4. Finger holder?
 - 5. Burn residue
 - 6. Musty
 - 7. Crazy people
 - 8. Listen to others, perhaps
 - 9. Path, in brief
 - 11. Golf prop
 - 12. Enthusiastic vigor
 - 13. Opening
 - 14. Tricks
 - 16. Pale
 - 21. List starter
 - 22. ___ de Janeiro
 - 23. Self worth

- 25. Hard, light-colored, sharp, Italian cheese
- 26. USAFE E-4
- 28. Tooth cover
- 29. Joint
- 33. Fink
- 34. Vietnamese New Year
- 35. Round shape
- 39. Mil. move
- 40. Whiskey or gin
- 41. University of Oklahoma players
- 44. Weird
- 45. Big ___; OutKast rapper
- 46. Hostel
- 48. Weight in the U.K.
- 50. Zero
- 52. ___ fair in love...
- 53. Tidy
- 54. Senegal capital
- 58. Tight
- 59. Murder, ___ Wrote
- 60. Federal org. concerned with airport security
- 62. Greek letter
- 63. Cleo killer
- 64. Afternoon beverage in the U.K.
- 65. Chicken



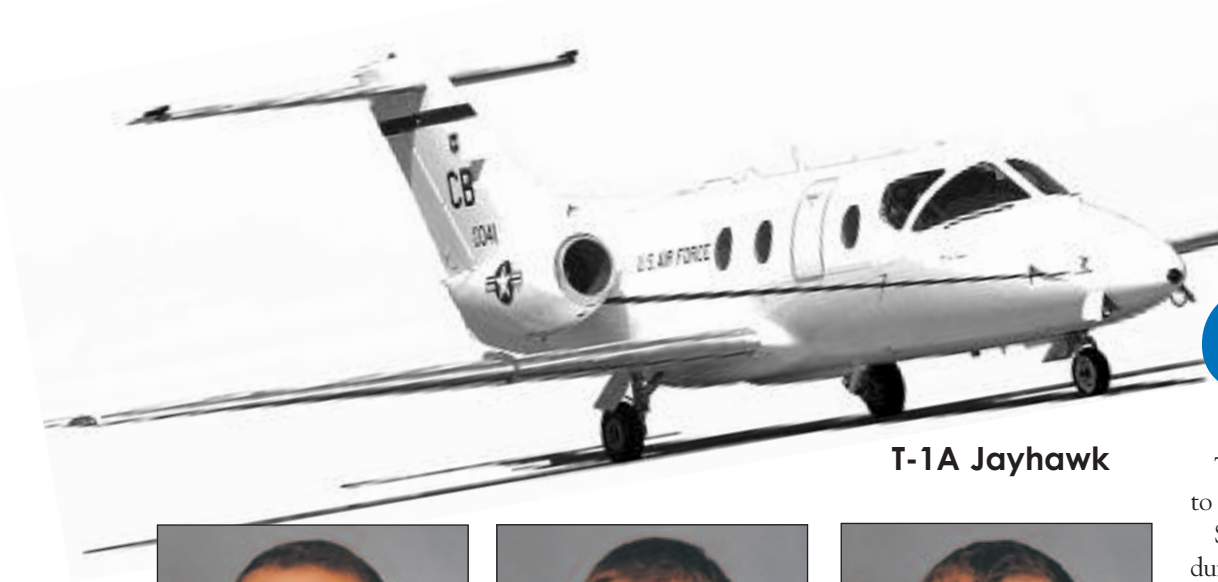
HH-60				MH-53			C-21
	C-17				KC-135		HH-60
		C-21				MH-53	
MH-53		KC-10	C-17				
				C-130			
						MH-53	KC-10
	KC-10		MH-53			HH-60	
CV-22			C-21			KC-10	
C-17							MH-53

AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT

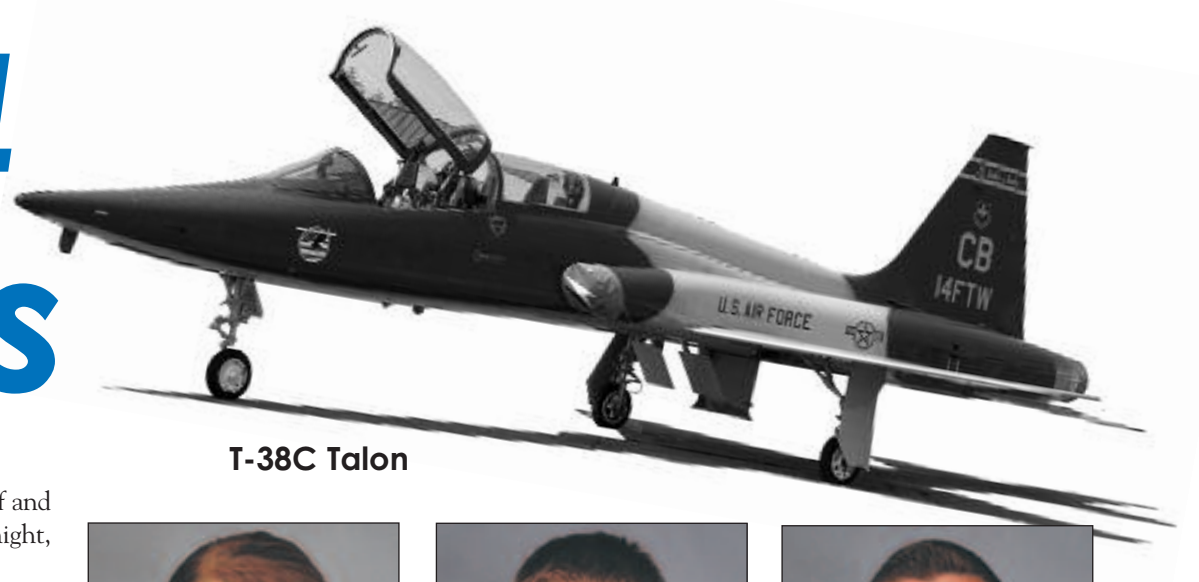
To solve, place an airlift aircraft into each box so that each row across, each column down, and each small 9-box square within the larger diagram will contain each of the following airlift aircraft: C-5, C-17, C-21, C-130, CV-22, HH-60, KC-10, KC-135 and MH-53. In other words, no aircraft may appear more than once in any row, column, or smaller 9-box square. Working with the planes already given as a guide, complete each diagram with the missing ranks that will lead to the correct solution.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat/Sun
8 ALS Retreat Smith Plaza @ 1630	9	10 BLAZE Lunch Bunch 1100 - 1400 @ Club	11 United Way Day to Care Patriot Day	12 IFF Graduation 1649 @ 49th 08-15 Assignment Night 1700 @ Club Arnold Air Society Golf Tournament @ Whispering Pines	13/14 T-38 Flyover 1800 @ MSU Football
15	16	17 ALS Graduation 1800 @ Club BLAZE Lunch Bunch 1100 - 1400 @ Club	18 Air Force Ball 1800 @ Trotter Convten Center	19	20/21 BLAZE Race 0800 @ Fitness Center

Long Term Events	
Sept. 23 - Welcome Home Celebration 1630 @ Club	Sept 24 - Colin Powell 2000 @ MSU
Sept. 24 - 09-08 Track Select 1600 @ Club	Sept. 25 - Enlisted Promotions 1530 @ Club
	Sept. 25 - SUPT 08-15 Gradution
	Sept. 27/28 - Autocross @ SAC Ramp



T-1A Jayhawk



T-38C Talon

SUPT Class 08-14 earns silver wings



Capt. David Paolillo
Massapequa, N.Y.
F-22, Tyndall AFB, Fla.



1st Lt. William Booth
Florence, Mont.
C-17, McChord AFB, Wash.



1st Lt. Kurt Degerlund
Fairbanks, Ala.
C-17, McGuire AFB, N.J.

Twenty-five officers have prevailed during a year of training, earning the right to be an Air Force pilot.

Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 08-14 graduates at 10 a.m. today during a ceremony at the Kaye Auditorium.

The graduation speaker is retired Lt. Gen. Garry Trexler, former Deputy Commander, United Nations Command; Deputy Commander, U.S. Forces Korea; Commander, Air Component Command, Republic of Korea, and Commander, 7th Air Force, Pacific Air Forces, Osan AB, South Korea. He was also the U.S. representative to the Joint Committee established by the United States and Republic of Korea for the Status of Forces Agreement.

Students receive their silver pilot's wings at the ceremony, and students who excelled in their respective training tracks are recognized.

Captain David Paolillo, T-38, and 2nd Lt. William Wassell, T-1, received the Air Education and Training Command Commander's Trophy for being the most outstanding students overall in their classes.

The Air Force Association Award was presented to 1st Lt. Yuki Motomura, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Robert Hegler Jr., T-1. The award is presented to a graduate in each flight who excelled in training and typified the tenets of the association — promoting aerospace power and a strong national defense.

Captain Paolillo, T-38, and 2nd Lt. Wassell, T-1, were named distinguished graduates.

The 52-week pilot training program begins with a six-week preflight phase of

academics and physiological training to prepare students for flight.

Students learn aircraft flight characteristics, emergency procedures, takeoff and landing procedures, aerobatics and formation flying. Students also practice night, instrument and cross country navigation flying.

Primary training takes about 23 weeks and includes 254.4 hours of ground training, 27.3 hours in the flight simulator and 89 flying hours.

After primary training, students select, by order of merit, advanced training in the fighter-bomber or airlift-tanker track.

Both tracks are designed to best train pilots for successful transition to their follow-on aircraft and mission.

Advanced training for the fighter track is done in the T-38 Talon, a tandem-seat, twin-engine supersonic jet. T-38 training emphasizes formation, advanced aerobatics and navigation. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 381 hours of ground events, 31.6 hours in the flight simulator and 118.7 flying hours.

The airlift-tanker track uses the T-1A Jayhawk, the military version of a multi-place business jet.

Instruction centers on crew coordination and management, instrument training, cross-country flying and simulated refueling and

airdrop missions. Training takes about 26 weeks and includes 185 hours of ground training, 43 hours in the flight simulator and 104 flying hours.

The class reunites on graduation day, when students receive the aeronautical rating of pilot and begin their careers as U.S. Air Force pilots. *(Editor's note: The class's pilot partners are Dr. John Whitecar Jr., Columbus Hematology and Oncology, and Dr. Claudia Limbert, President of Mississippi University for Women.)*



1st Lt. Masayuki Kawamura
Kanoya, Japan
F-15/F-2, Japan



1st Lt. Gregg Lutterman
Gilbertville, Ky.
KC-10, McGuire AFB, N.J.



1st Lt. Yuki Motomura
Tokorozawa, Japan
F-15/F-2, Japan



1st Lt. Jeri-Lynn Harper Wayan
Brigham City, Utah
E-3, Tinker AFB, Okla.



1st Lt. Christopher Hill
Griffin, Ga.
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



1st Lt. Benjamin Hoffman
Wilmington, Del.
T-6, Columbus AFB, Miss.



1st Lt. Kristine Muth
Pleasant Hill, Calif.
C-17, Charleston AFB, S.C.



1st Lt. Joseph Ratterree III
Savannah, Ga.
T-1, Columbus AFB, Miss.



1st Lt. Grant Saum
Arcadia, Ohio
F-15E, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.



1st Lt. Levi Sheppard
Fort Madison, Iowa
K.C.-10, Travis AFB, Calif.



1st Lt. Jordan Tharel
Booneville, Ark.
C-130, Cheyenne, Wyo.



1st Lt. James Trimble
Coral Springs, Fla.
E-8, Robins AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Joshua Bennett
Durango, Colo.
B-52, Barksdale AFB, La.



2nd Lt. Grant Brown
Coudersport, Pa. (ANG)
F-16, Duluth, Minn.



2nd Lt. Robert Hegler Jr.
Lugoff, S.C. (ANG)
C-130, Charlotte, N.C.



2nd Lt. Carlos Hernandez
Ecuador
Quito, Ecuador



2nd Lt. Chris Poponi
Pearl City, Hawaii (ANG)
C-17, Hickam AFB, Hawaii



2nd Lt. Jason Putman
Shreveport, La. (ANG)
KC-135, Meridian, Miss.



2nd Lt. Johnny Reyes
Boise, Idaho (ANG)
A-10, Boise, Idaho



2nd Lt. Robert Vaccariello
San Dimas, Calif. (ANG)
F-16, Tulsa, Okla.



2nd Lt. William Wassell Jr.
New Iberia, La. (ANG)
KC-135, Meridian, Miss.

CSAF special interest item: "back to basics"

Lt. Col. John Menozzi

50th Flying Training Squadron Commander



A "special interest item" is a common acronym in the Air Force flying business. SIIs are command-level focus areas which are applied to each mission we fly and must be briefed prior to every sortie. They typically change on a quarterly basis and address recent trend items which have developed due to complacency or lack of focus on a particular

aspect of flying. SIIs are very effective for restoring focus

on critical mission tasks which often appear mundane or common-place. Periodically throughout my flying career, as we became enamored with perfecting the more advanced, tactical portions of our flying mission, a flying SII would be directed titled "back to basics," usually as a result of a collective loss of focus on such everyday tasks as take-offs and landings. It was then our job as the flight lead or instructor to re-focus and simplify the mission execution—making sure we got the critical administration precisely right every time!

Recent events in our Air Force, culminating with the resignation and appointment of a new Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force, have highlighted a similar loss of focus on some of the basic core competencies which all Airmen must possess. The new Chief of Staff, Gen. Schwartz, has directed an Air Force-

wide effort, similar to an SII, re-focusing all Airmen on our core values and accomplishing our mission with precision and reliability every time.

Here at Columbus AFB, we have the unique opportunity to serve with and influence hundreds of first-assignment Airmen, both officer and enlisted, in several different career fields. It is critical that supervisors and leaders at all levels take this opportunity to talk with their Airmen about the numerous significant issues and changes now affecting our Air Force. A daily focus on instilling our Air Force core values and enforcing high standards will build the foundation in our future warriors to accomplish their mission with precision and reliability. Living by these "back to basic" ideals will continue to justify America's confidence in us and ensure we remain the world's greatest Air Force!

The meaning of being a first-term Airman

Airman Deborah Young

366th Fighter Wing
Public Affairs Office

MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, Idaho — Her name was Paige Renee Villers. She was fun-loving, full of life. She wanted to take on the world and wouldn't let anything get in her way. She was a good person who didn't always have the best of luck. She didn't always agree with her mother, and she was never a straight-A student. But she knew how to work hard and she was strong enough to overcome any obstacle or road block put in front of her.

High school graduation came and went, and unlike most of us who went off to college, Paige stayed in town and worked odd jobs to pay bills. After about a year, she decided she had enough of living paycheck to paycheck and started looking into a career in the Air Force. Through her research, she discovered what all it had to offer: great benefits, college assistance, travel, respect and most important, honor. Paige wanted to serve her country and prove to her family she could do more than just waitress, that she could be all that she could be. She signed up and left for basic training.

Trainee Villers struggled the first week of basic training, as all new trainees do, but she was determined to do well and worked as hard as she could even when her flight didn't. She loved the Air Force, even though she just started. The training instructors at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, were all she had experienced. Her goal was to get that Airman's Coin and march down the bomb run on graduation day. With every phone call home to her mother, she'd tell her how hard basic training was, but she always had

something positive to say as well.

The third week came, and Trainee Villers started to catch a cold. But there was no way that was going to slow her down. Warrior Week, the major field training exercise, was just around the corner, and she was that much closer to her Airman's Coin.

During Warrior Week, the unexpected happened. Trainee Villers caught the adenovirus. Once her flight got back from Warrior Week, she was sent to the Willford Hall Hospital at Lackland. There, Paige began a battle for her life. The adenovirus attacks a person's immune system, and hers was already weak from lack of sleep and a cold.

At first, the question was if Paige would graduate on time. But after a turn for the worse, Paige slipped into a coma. The Villers family flew to Texas to be by her side. This time, Paige was lucky. She woke up from her coma about a week later, and the first words out of her mouth were, "Am I still in the Air Force?", "Am I still going to be an Airman?", and "Do I still get my Airman's Coin?"

That, to me, sums up everything about being an Airman. Not only was she fighting for her life, she was fighting for a chance at being in the Air Force and becoming an Airman.

The answer was yes, she was still in the Air Force. Once she heard the good news, it was like everything was fine and she went back to trying to recover. Her flight graduated, and even though she was weak, Paige was allowed to go out to the bomb run to receive her Airman's Coin. Airman Villers graduated from basic training in July 2007.

Shortly after, her immune system went under another attack from the adenovirus.

On Aug. 7, 2007, she passed away.

Airman Paige Villers was a huge inspiration to me. Even though she never made it off Lackland Air Force Base, she knew what it meant to be an Airman. I know she would've succeeded in everything the Air Force had to offer. She was an amazing person from whom we all can learn a lot.

For me at least, I learned a lot from Paige, and I know how much of an honor it is to be a first-term Airman. I've learned so much discipline and gained so much confidence in myself since I joined. Being a first-term Airman is such an amazing feeling. I am now part of the Air Force family, a tight-knit group of people who always watch out for each other and who are always there to lend a helping hand.

When becoming an Airman, you not only gain the title, you also gain responsibility, not only for yourself, but for the mission, for your country and for every American citizen's well-being.

First-term Airmen also gain many opportunities. I gained the opportunity to travel, continue my education, have good benefits and meet people from all over the world. I plan on taking college classes as soon as I can, and I plan on competing for senior airman below the zone. I really want to do well in the Air Force, and I want to help the Air Force mission succeed.

I truly believe joining the Air Force was one of the best decisions I've ever made. It's given me a whole new sense of accomplishment and satisfaction in myself. It's given me so many experiences in such a short amount of time that I can't wait to see what is waiting around the corner for me.

Looking back at everything I've done, there's one moment from technical school that stands out as a defining moment in my career so far.

I went to technical school at Fort Meade, Md. While there, we had a volunteer trip to assist veterans around Washington D.C. It was my first time there, and I was in uniform unloading wheel chairs when I felt someone tap my shoulder. I turned around to see an old Air Force major holding out his hand for mine.

As I shook his hand, he said, "Thank you, young lady." I just smiled back and said, "Thank me? I haven't done anything yet, so thank you." He replied, "You signed the dotted line. You are here, you're serving your country and not everyone can say that. You've done a lot, so thank you." That right there was a moment I will never forget.

It was a moment I wish Paige could've had. It was a moment she deserved.

I have come to realize how much the military is appreciated and how much respect is given to those who serve. I now have an overwhelming sense of pride. Every Airman should take pride in what they do. They should also realize being an Airman is completely different than being a civilian.

First-term Airmen and all Airmen in general are held to a high standard. One that embodies the core values of integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do. I will strive to do my best in the Air Force, I will live by the core values, and I will always be thankful for every door the Air Force has opened.

That is what being a first-term Airman means. It means having courage, pride, responsibility, dedication, and a drive to do well, to make a difference. I am so proud to put on my uniform every day. I am proud to stand at attention and salute our flag. I am proud of everything I've accomplished so far in my career. I am proud to call myself a first-term Airman.

Base News

CAFB School Students

Elementary, Middle and High School Students who reside ON Columbus AFB, and who desire to attend a school within the Columbus Municipal School District, must file a written petition with the Superintendent of the Lowndes County School District AND the Superintendent of the Columbus Municipal School District, requesting that he/she be transferred to the Columbus Municipal School District. The Trustees of the two districts will act upon the petition NLT their next regular Board meeting. Questions, please contact the Wing School Liaison Officer, E J Griffis at 434-2792 or via email at e.griffis@columbus.af.mil.

ASIST

There will be an ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Training) class at the Chapel Annex Sept. 11 and 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days. All materials will be supplied. This course is highly recommended for commanders and supervisors at any level as well as all Airmen. This class is significantly more involved than the annual requirement and actually gives individuals the tools to engage at-risk persons, to assess risk levels, and get people in contact with the help they need. ASIST has a proven track record for saving lives and is the most highly rated program of its kind. Registration is limited. Contact Chaplain Logan at the Base Chapel to register at 434-2500 or 434-2943.

Krispy Kreme Fundraiser

The 14th Force Support Squadron Booster Club is holding a fundraiser selling doughnuts until Sept. 9. The price is \$6 for one dozen glazed doughnuts. Orders will be delivered to the Personnel Building Sept. 12 at 8 a.m. for pick-up. For more information, contact 2nd Lt. Jonathan Murphy at 434-2802 or Airman 1st Class Kaitlin Humphrey at 434-3191.

Financial Peace University Class

The Base Chapel will offer a Financial Peace University Class weekly Tuesday nights beginning Sept. 9 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The course features DVD presentations by nationally syndicated financial advisor Dave Ramsey and will be facilitated by certified leaders. The class is open to all persons, but is specifically designed for couples who need guidance and support in making sound financial decisions for their present and future. The program is spiritually based, but is not a "Bible study". It offers a common sense approach on how to get out of debt and provide security. The program is free, but registration is required and space is limited. The program is 13 weeks. Contact Chaplain

Logan at the Base Chapel to register at 434-2500 or 434-2943.

Columbus AFB Retiree Appreciation

Columbus AFB Retiree Appreciation Day will be held Sept. 27. This is an all day event starting at the Columbus Club at 9 a.m. with activities, information displays and a luncheon with 14th Medical group commander, Col. Diane Fletcher as the featured speaker. Following the luncheon, the Base Exchange and Commissary will feature some "Retiree" Specials in their locations. Please RSVP by Sept. 10 to the Retiree Affairs Office at 434-3120 or Lt. Steven Lewis at 434-2692.

Beth Moore Bible Study

Sept. 9 at 7 p.m., the Columbus AFB Chapel will be offering the Beth Moore Bible Study, "Believing God". They will meet each Tuesday for two hours and the study will last ten weeks. Please call the chapel office to register for this class at 434-2500.

School Testing

PSAT/SAT/ACT: With the 2008- 2009 school year now fully underway, questions with regard to PSAT/SAT/ACT testing abound. The testing window for this battery of tests is just around the corner. For info on the PSAT/SAT, please access the following Web site: www.collegeboard.com. For information on the ACT, the Web site is: www.act.org. Finally, for free SAT/ACT Test Preparation Materials, access the Military HomeFront web site at http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/ (the link to the free materials is found under Special Offers). Direct any questions you may have to the School Liaison Office at 434-2792.

Attention All Deployers

The 14th Communications Squadron has a new system which allows you to place "free" telephone calls back home from your deployed location via DSN. You can call every day or once a week; whichever you prefer (allotted time is 3.5 hours a week). Pin numbers are required and can be picked up along with instructions from the Telephone Systems office located in Building 900, Room 9. Please call 434-2020 for additional information.

Saint Leo University

Saint Leo University is now offering undergraduate degree programs at Columbus AFB in Business Administration (Management and Technology Management), Psychology and Criminal Justice. Saint Leo University programs are open to all military, dependents, civil service, contractors, retirees and local residents. Classes are offered on base and via distance learning. East Mississippi Community

College graduates and CCAF students can smoothly transition into Saint Leo University degree programs. For more information, please stop by Room 120 in the Personnel Building and talk to Dew White, CAFB/Saint Leo University Center Director or call her at 434-8844.

Testing Office Schedule

The Education Office will be conducting testing (CDC, PME, CLEP, etc.) on these dates in Sept.: 8, 9, 10, 11, 23, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30. Please call 434-2562 to schedule.

Airman and Family Readiness Center

(Editor's note: All activities are offered at the Airman & Family Readiness Center unless otherwise specified. For more information about any of the activities listed, call 434-2790 or email afrc@columbus.af.mil.)

Pre-Deployment Brief

There is a mandatory briefing for active duty personnel who are deploying or going on a remote tour. The brief is held every work day at 9 a.m. Spouses are welcome to attend.

Hearts Apart Social Gathering

This event will be held Sept. 17 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Airman and Family Readiness Center. The Hearts Apart Social is for families of deployed (over 30 days) or remote personnel. Information and refreshments will be offered. Advance registration is required. Call the AFRC at 434-2790 or email afrc@columbus.af.mil.

Preseparation Counseling

This mandatory briefing for personnel separating or retiring to be completed at least 90 days prior to separation is held daily at 8:30 a.m. May complete up to 12 months prior to separation or retirement. This briefing takes approximately 30 minutes. For

more information, call 434-2839 or 434-2790.

Tap Workshop

This workshop will be held Sept. 9-11 starting at 7:45 a.m. For more information, call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 434-2790 or e-mail afrc@columbus.af.mil.

Post-Deployment Brief

This mandatory briefing is for active duty personnel who are returning from deployment or a remote tour are held daily at 1:30 p.m. at the A&FRC. For more information, call 434-2790.

Chapel Schedule

Protestant

Sunday: 9 a.m. — Adult Sunday School
10:45 a.m. — Traditional
Worship Service (Children's Church)

All are invited to a fellowship luncheon following the 10:45 a.m. service the fourth Sunday of each month

Catholic

Monday through Thursday
7 a.m. — Mass

Thursday
5 p.m. — Choir Practice

Sunday:
4:30 p.m. — Confession
4:30 p.m. — Choir Practice
1:30 p.m. — Mass (Sept. 7 only)

First Communion, Confirmation and RCIA classes are held Wednesday in conjunction with Pioneer Club.

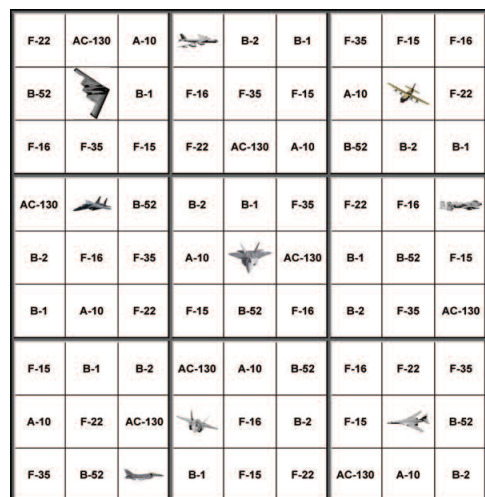
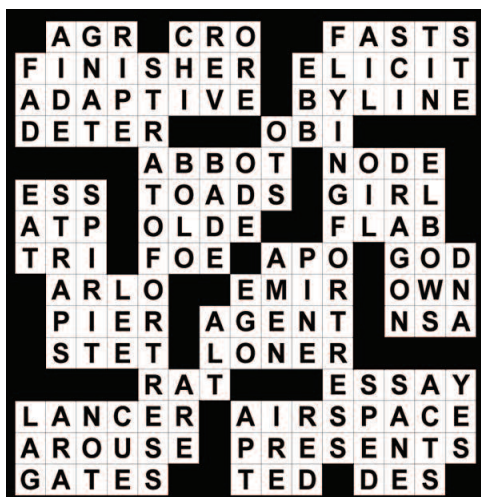
The Catholic Parish Fellowship Dinner is held on the first Sunday of each month following the 5:30 p.m. Mass.

CAFB Catholic Parish Picnic

The CAFB Catholic Parish Picnic will be held Sept. 7. There will be a mass at the Base Chapel at 1:30 p.m. and the picnic will follow at Freedom Park immediately after. There will be no mass at 5:30 p.m. Sunday. For more information, call the Base Chapel at 434-2500.

SOLUTION FOR LAST WEEK

(Current weeks puzzle on page 8)



Buying local reaps dividends for base customers

Jana Hall and 2nd Lt. Jonathan Murphy
14th Force Support Squadron

"Buy local."

It's a simple phrase, and yet it has undeniably wide-reaching social and economic effects. When you buy locally from either a small business owner on Main Street or a local farmer at an open-air farmer's market, you directly support the local economy. A strong, stable economy is generally correlated to a strong, stable community.

As military members, our notion of community is very fluid. Every time we PCS, our physical community changes, but each base has common elements found across the Air Force, like a bowling center or child development center. Columbus AFB is no different. Because we find ourselves here at Columbus AFB, this is our community now and it's our responsibility to build a strong, stable community.

Of course, we aim to turn a profit, but our focus is on participation and quality. To do so, we balance successful business strategies from corporate America with socially responsible strategies aimed at strengthening the Columbus AFB community. For example, our contracted organizations, like the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, support the Columbus AFB community. First, Columbus AFB receives dividends from AAFES based on revenue generated from AAFES facilities through out the Air Force. These dividends are deposited directly into the Morale, Welfare and

Recreation Fund, Chief of Resource Management, said Laura Hammock.

According to Hammock, in the first 10 months of fiscal year 2008 (through July 31), the Columbus MWR fund received \$211,422 in AAFES dividends.

In addition to the AAFES-generated funds, the MWRF receives a fraction of the earnings from the 14th Force Support Squadron's various revenue-based activities which include the Columbus Club, Arts and Crafts Center, Auto Hobby Shop, Bowling Center, Youth Center, Child Development Center, Outdoor Recreation, Information, Ticket and Tours and Whispering Pines Golf Course, said Hammock.

Finally, a smaller source of MWRF dollars come from a percentage of the money contracted vendors procure throughout the year at various programs and events hosted on base, such as a concession at an event like "Go Fourth" or from class instructors who charge a fee for a program at the Fitness Center or Youth Center.

Hammock said, "The money comes in and goes right back out on base to benefit Airmen and their families."

MWRF dividends are designated for equipment upgrades and program improvements on base. Some of the more obvious examples during this fiscal year are evident at the Columbus Club, Youth Center, Outdoor Recreation and on the golf course.

"We have a club improvement project going on as we

speak worth more than \$213,000," Hammock said.

Improvements to the club, thanks to MWRF money, include the already installed new carpet, upgraded patio furnishings, new wall covering, upgraded lighting, new ballroom partitions and updated lobby and foyer furniture.

The Youth Center has upgraded computers in the youth and school age computer rooms thanks to the MWRF dollars, according to youth programs director, Kayline Hamilton.

Our children also benefit from a newly hired tutor to provide one-on-one help with those problem subjects and the addition of numerous three to five-day mini camps this summer offering training in cooking, basketball, soccer, archery, gymnastics, golf, etc.

"We also have been able to provide more health and life skill programs which help our youth engage in positive behaviors and nurture their own well-being as well as more educational field trips to enhance their community awareness," Hamilton said.

In addition, the MWRF helps purchase prizes to enhance participation in various youth programs and activities and defrays the cost of teen traveling sports teams.

So buy local! Go to the Base Exchange for your wares and take advantage of all AAFES has to offer! Then sit back and enjoy all of the fun programs available at Columbus AFB. Each dollar you spend helps build a strong, stable community.

Variety of recreational choices provided to families

Bingo

The Columbus Club is offering a bingo night Sept. 22. The early bird games start at 6 p.m. with the regular games starting at 7 p.m. Over \$1,700 is available in cash prizes, but prize payout is based on participation. Reservations are required by Sept. 16. You must be 18 years or older to play. For more information, call 434-2489.

Parents Night Out

The Youth Center and Child Development Center are offering a parents night out from 6 to 11 p.m. Sept. 18. Registration is required by Sept. 15 and a \$5 deposit is required when registering. For more information, call the Youth Center at 434-2504 or the Child Development Center at 434-2441.

Lunch Bunch

The Columbus Club offers a plated lunch every Wednesday during lunch. This week's entrees include fried chicken, sliced turkey breast and Swedish meatballs and noodles. Sides are macaroni and cheese, mashed potatoes and gravy, baked sweet potatoes, turnip greens and cornbread dressing. Cost is \$6.25 for club members and \$7.25 for nonmembers. The lunch special of the day is \$6.95 and features tuna salad served over a bed lettuce with

potato chips and seasonal fruit. Desserts are \$2.95 each include New York cheesecake with strawberry topping, homemade cobbler and a sugar free coconut cream pie. For more information, call 434-2490.

Football Bowl

Watch the big game on the bowling center's big screen while you are bowling every Sunday at 11 a.m. There are specials on hot wings and other snack bar specials. Bowling is \$1 per game and shoe rental is \$1. For more information, call 434-3426.

Wrestling Event

The Fitness Center is hosting the International Championship Wrestling team to compete at the David Lavender Coliseum Oct. 3 at 7 p.m. Tickets are on sale at the Fitness Center for \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, ages 2 to 12. All ringside seats are \$15 and are on a first come, first serve basis. For more information, call 434-2772.

Auto Hobby Shop Oil Change

The Arts and Crafts Center offers this service for \$29.95 and includes five quarts oil and filter, wiper and transmission fluid check and tire pressure. Pick-up and delivery services are available. Call 434-7842 for an appointment.

Take your best shot



U.S. Air Force photo by Jana Hall

Second Lt. Adam Irvin, 14th Medical Support Squadron, Chief Master Sgt. Barbara Steffan, 14th Medical Group Superintendent, and Airman 1st Class Joshua Soper, 14th MDSS, challenge all squadrons to "Take Your Best Shot" for the upcoming Spirit Night from 4 to 6 p.m. Sept. 11 at the Columbus Club. For more information, call 434-2490.

Summer Bash: The second annual Summer Bash and Kid's Fishing Rodeo will be held Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lake Lowndes State Park. The rodeo is for children ages 4-12 and will be from 8 a.m. to noon. Please bring your own bait and fishing pole. There will be games and prizes for the whole family. For more information, call 328-2110.

Columbus-Lowndes County Library Volunteer: The Columbus-Lowndes County library system is looking for volunteers. The Columbus-Lowndes Public Library is comprised of a headquarters in Columbus with three branches located in Artesia, Caledonia and Crawford. The Columbus-Lowndes Public Library assumes the role of

fulfilling the information needs of the residents of Lowndes County and neighboring counties in Mississippi by advocating efficient, effective services and encouraging cooperation among all libraries. The Columbus-Lowndes Public Library uses volunteers to provide the best possible library services to the patrons of the library. Volunteers must be 18 years of age; may be required to lift; dependable, eager to work; committed; knowledge of the Dewey Decimal System, previous library or clerical work preferred, but will train the right person. To apply, Please call Meagan at 327-0807.

For more information about local area events, e-mail AFRC@columbus.af.mil or call the Airman and Family Readiness Center at 434-2790.

HAWC prepares military spouse for half marathon

2nd Lt. George Fowler

14th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs

One of Columbus AFB's very own participated in the Rock 'n' Roll Half Marathon at Virginia Beach, Va., Aug. 31.

Susan Dunn, wife of Col. Jeff Dunn, 14th Flying Training Wing vice commander, said it was her first marathon and it took a lot of preparation and training to complete.

"It was something I had never done before and I never thought I could accomplish. I just considered this a personal challenge" said Mrs. Dunn.

Mrs. Dunn has always been into exercising, but it wasn't until she found out a good friend of hers was running a half marathon that she decided it was something she was interested in.

"There may be people out there who would like to accomplish a goal which they don't think they have the time for or the ability" reflected Mrs. Dunn.

"Go for it. Don't let your schedule or age get in the way. If you

really want to do something you can readjust your mindset," Dunn challenged.

The encouragement of her husband and friends were truly what helped her keep going indicated Mrs. Dunn. She also found an ally in the Health and Wellness Center on Columbus AFB.

"I went to the HAWC for guidance which was a very big help," noted Mrs. Dunn. "They helped me set up a workout schedule and provided several tips I used in training and during the race."

The Dunn family has since decided to run a 10K together. Mrs. Dunn said her half marathon has inspired the family to accomplish a run together.

"I would like to thank all those who encouraged me and all the support I received from people who wanted me to succeed," said Mrs. Dunn.

The Columbus AFB HAWC is here to help all BLAZE team members maintain good health and achieve their personal fitness goals. For more information on the services the HAWC can offer, call 434-2477.

14th CES takes championship



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman Josh Harbin

Christopher Palmer, 14th Operational Support Squadron, prepares to swing at a pitch during the intramural softball championship game Wednesday at Field One. The final game was between the 14th OSS and the 14th Civil Engineer Squadron. Ultimately, the championship title was given to the 14th CES after defeating the 14th OSS with a score of 17-3.



Sports Shorts

USAF Marathon: Air Education and Training Command is seeking teams for the 12th annual USAF Marathon scheduled for Sept. 20 at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio. Events include the marathon, wheelchair marathon, half marathon, individual 10K and team 10K. If you desire to run as a part of the AETC sponsored team submit your team/individual nominations on AF Form 303, Specialized Sports Training, to the Fitness Center. More information on the Air Force Marathon can be obtained at <http://www.usafmarathon.com>.

2008 BLAZE Race: Columbus AFB will be holding the 2008 BLAZE Race Sept. 20 at 8 a.m. The awards ceremony will be held at 9:30 a.m. The early entry fee is \$20 or \$30 on race day. The 10K will take place at 8 a.m. followed by a 5K at 8:30 a.m. Registration forms can be picked up at the Health and Wellness Center or the Fitness Center. For more information call the Fitness Center at 434-2772 or the HAWC at 434-2477.

Thursday Golf Scrambles: Golf scrambles start every Thursday at 4:45 p.m. Cost is \$5 plus greens fees. Open to all levels of golfers. For more information, call 434-7932.

Fitness Classes: The Fitness Center offers fitness classes. Spin classes are Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays beginning at 7 a.m. Cardio kick boxing classes are Mondays and Wednesdays at 5 p.m. and aerobics is offered Saturdays at 9 a.m. For more information, call the Fitness Center at 434-2772.

Summer Lunch, Bowl Special: Receive two free games of bowling from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the purchase of a combo meal during lunch.

Cosmic Bowling: Cosmic bowling is every Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Cost is \$2 per game. The night is complete with

Nature Trail

Many people are unaware of the opportunity to walk, run, bike or horseback ride along Columbus AFB's Timberlane Nature Trail. Along the trail, various wetlands, trees and countless wildlife can be found. To reach the recreational area, follow Independence Ave. to the runway area. Signs found alongside the dirt road toward SAC Lake offer direction to the beginning of the trails. For more information, call 434-7958



Air Force football team to honor Air Force with patches

U.S. Air Force Academy Sports Information Office

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. –The Air Force Academy football team is honoring the men and women of the Air Force by wearing the Air Force symbol on its uniform this season.

The U.S. Air Force symbol honors the heritage of our past and represents the promise of our future. It retains the core elements of our Air Corps heritage — the "Arnold" wings and star with circle — and modernizes them to reflect our air and space force of today and tomorrow.

"The 2008 Falcons are wearing the Air Force symbol because they line up as the Air Force's team. They know that they represent more than themselves on Saturday afternoons and they do it with the pride, honor, sportsmanship, dignity and winning spirit that spell Air Force Falcon and Air Force Airman," said Maj. Anthony Roberson, a current football staff member and a 1989 graduate of the Academy and was a three-year football letterman.

In addition, the team will also honor 10 of the Air Force's Heritage Wings and Groups by wearing patches on their home uniforms; and six USAF Air and Space Expeditionary Wings by wearing patches on their away uniforms for the second straight year.

Additional information on the AF Symbol and the Heritage Wings and Groups follows below.

The Meaning of the Air Force Symbol

The U.S. Air Force symbol honors the heritage of our past and represents the promise of our future. It retains the core elements of our Air Corps heritage -- the "Arnold" wings and star with circle -- and modernizes them to reflect our air and space force of today and tomorrow.

The symbol has two main parts. In the upper half, the stylized wings represent the stripes of our strength — the enlisted men and women of our force. They are drawn with great angularity to emphasize our swiftness and power, and they are divided into six sections which represent our distinctive capabilities -- air and space superiority, global attack, rapid global mobility, precision engagement, information superiority, and agile combat support.

In the lower half are a sphere, a star and three diamonds. The sphere within the star represents the globe. It reminds us of our obligation to secure our nation's freedom with Global Vigilance, Reach and Power. The globe also reminds us of our challenge as an expeditionary force to respond rapidly to crises and to provide decisive aerospace power, worldwide.

The area surrounding the sphere takes the shape of a star. The star has many meanings. Its five points represent the components of our Total Force and family -- our active duty, civilians, Guard, Reserve and retirees. The star symbolizes space as the high ground of our nation's air and space force. The rallying symbol in all our wars, the star also represents our officer corps, central to our combat leadership.

The star is framed with three diamonds, which represent our core values -- integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. The elements come together to form one symbol that presents two powerful images -- at once it is an eagle, the emblem of our nation, and a medal, representing valor in service to our nation.

Heritage Wings and Groups

The Heritage Wings and Groups date back to the foundations of the Air Force, beginning on Aug. 1, 1907, when the U.S. Army Signal Corps established a small Aeronautical Division to take "charge of all matters pertaining to military ballooning, air machines and all kindred subjects." But, it was not until May 26, 1909, that military aviation was born, when Lts. Frank P. Lahm and Benjamin D. Foulois made their first ascent and qualified as the airship's first Army pilots. The National Security Act of 1947 created a separate Department of the Air Force, headed by a Secretary of the Air Force; from that law, today's Air Force was officially born on Sept. 18, 1947.

The 10 patches represent active duty units that have colorful and distinguished histories. These "heritage units" not only represent the legacy of the Air Force past, but also the promise of its future. Each Air Force mission and capability is represented with this cross-section of units.

The Air and Space Expeditionary Force concept is the Air Force's vision for the 21st century to organize, train, equip and deploy forces for contingency operations while remaining ready to meet national

crises. AEF also helps create a mindset and culture that embraces the unique characteristics of air and space power - range, speed, flexibility and precision. Military personnel that are deployed become a part of one of these six wings.

Heritage wing/groups:

8th Fighter Wing - Kunsan AB, Korea
31st Fighter Wing - Aviano AB, Italy
3rd Wing - Elmendorf AFB, Alaska
14th Flying Training Wing - Columbus AFB, Miss.

2nd Bomb Wing - Barksdale AFB, La.
19th Air Refueling Group - Robins AFB, Ga.

9th Reconnaissance Wing - Beale AFB, Calif.

341st Missile Wing - Malmstrom AFB, Mont

1st Special Operations Wing - Hurlburt Field, Fla.

315th Airlift Wing - Charleston AFB, S.C.

Air and Space Expeditionary Force Wings:

380th Air Expeditionary Wing - SW Asia

455th AEW - Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan

379th AEW - SW Asia

332nd AEW - Balad AB, Iraq

376th AEW - Manas AB, Krygyz Republic.

386th AEW - SW Asia

Paralympic games

Navy Petty Officer Casey Tibbs (left) from San Diego, Calif., races alongside teammate Josiah Jamison from Chula Vista, Calif., Aug. 26 at Ryukyu Middle School on Kadena AB, Japan. More than 100 athletes and support staff from the U.S. Paralympics track and field and swim teams arrived on Kadena AB Aug. 24 to live and train for the next ten days in preparation for the 2008 Paralympic Games being held in Beijing, China, Sept. 6.



U.S. Air Force photo by Airman First Class Aaron Johnson

Falcons lead 41-7 rout



U.S. Air Force photo by John Van Winkle

Inside linebacker Brandon Reeves lays out to tackle Southern Utah University running-back Kenny Apilli in the end zone for a safety and the first score of the day. Air Force recorded a school-record two safeties in the game.